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ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE

BEDLINGTONSHIRE URBAN

DISTRICT COUNCIL

FOR THE YEAR 1962

BY THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR



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THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1962

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I beg to present to you the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health concerning the health and sanitary conditions of the Urban District for 1962.

The Registrar General's population estimate for 1962 showed an increase of 540, bringing the population of the Shire to 30,110. This is the greatest population yet attained by Bedlingtonshire Urban District Council. There has been a considerable influx of population to the Stakeford area, especially of young people and this is reflected in the number of births for the year 1962. These showed an increase of 50 over 1961 with a total of 546—the highest figure since 1952. It gave an uncorrected birth rate of 18.1 per 1,000 population.

I regret to report, however, that the number of infant deaths rose from 13 in 1961 to 18 in 1962, giving an infant mortality rate of 32.9 per 1,000 live births. Of these deaths, 15 were under one month and 14 were under one week. Seven of the deaths were due to congenital conditions.

The total number of deaths in 1962 was 324 (an increase of 3 over 1961) and the crude death rate was 10.7 per 1,000 population.

It was a good year as far as infectious disease was concerned; only 51 notifications. Of these 18 were measles and 13 pulmonary tuberculosis. Once again there were no notifications of diphtheria.

Under the National Assistance Act 1948—Section 31, the Council continued to contribute towards the Old People's Welfare Committee for chiropody.

In the summer of 1962 the Municipal Caravan Site was opened at Hartford Bridge. This is reported upon in detail elsewhere in the report.

I wish to thank the Chairman and the Health Committee for their continued support and my colleagues in other departments for their co-operation.

The Health Department staff must be thanked for all the work performed during 1962. In the main this is routine, unspectacular and seldom heard about, but without which the health and welfare of the district would suffer beyond measure.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

ALEXANDER DONALDSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health	-	Alexander Donaldson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector		
Meat and Foods Inspector		
Shops Inspector	- - - -	- R. W. Cowans, M.A.P.H.I.
Additional Public Health Inspector		
and		
Meat and Foods Inspector	- - - -	- J. Colpitts, M.A.P.H.I.
Student Public Health Inspector	- - - -	- K. J. Dobson
Health Department Typist	- - - -	- Miss Patricia Hall
Rodent Operator	- - - -	- G. W. Yarrow
Offices	- - - -	- Front Street, Bedlington
Telephone	- - - -	- Bedlington 2121

STATISTICS AND CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in acres	... ..	9,025
Registrar General's Estimate of the Resident Population		
	Mid 1962	30,110
Rateable Value	... ..	£402,571
Penny Rate Produces	... ..	£1,605
Number of Inhabited Houses	... ..	9,670
Number of Council Houses	... ..	4,064

HOUSING

Bedlingtonshire has had a fine reputation for the number of council houses built since 1945. In the last two years private housing estates have been established and the number of unfit houses is being reduced rapidly.

One criticism, however, is the slavish conformity to the traditional type of semi-detached villa—which is a pity. Improvements *have* been made—e.g. roof insulation is standard, but surely the winter of 1962 has pointed to the necessity for conservation of heat. Is it necessary for waste and water pipes to be placed on outside walls? Must we never reach the stage where the small extra expense of double glazing is thought to be worth while? Every living room at least, should have double glazed windows, and if this was approved for the main bedroom, central heating would be within our grasp.

I think, too, that Bedlington Council should seriously consider improvements in aged persons' and disabled persons' bungalows. Both should incorporate wider corridors to facilitate the movement of wheelchairs. They should include ramped entrances. They should have no baths, but instead, shower cabinets should be provided with a seat and a shower at waist height on a flexyarm. This would overcome the fear which exists at present with old people and disabled persons when baths are mentioned. Sliding doors should take the place of the traditional door and there should be *no* fireplaces. These are dangerous, dirty and one of the heaviest and most difficult chores of housework, as far as the old person is concerned. Instal double glazed windows and ducted air central heating. This can be most economical to run and for the old couple or the disabled person a complete freedom from the eternal setting, kindling and cleaning of a coal fire. Unfortunately tradition dies hard and I fear that the love of the uneconomical blazing, dirty, smoke-producing coal fire will continue to be asked for and installed.

CARAVAN SITES

At long last the municipal caravan site at Hartford is established. It conforms to the model standards recommended by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. In some ways it exceeds these standards, but it is far from the ideal site conceived by the Northumberland County Council Planning Committee. The model standards recommend 20 ft. between caravans—the County Planning Officer demands at least 30 ft. or planning approval would not be granted. Not only would this appear to be an unwarrantable imposition on the district authority by increasing the cost by at least 50% but it is imposing an arbitrary standard far in excess of that demanded by the Ministry.

The result is a very much larger area than is necessary and means that many caravans are as far as 300 yards from a source of hot water, baths and showers. I cannot understand why the County Planning Committee cannot agree to give planning consent for a caravan site to accommodate X number caravans. The district authority who normally would issue the site licence would hardly be likely to accept for themselves, standards lower than those recommended in the Model Standards. In point of fact the Ministry issued a circular stating that site licences should not be applied too rigidly to private sites. It seems a great pity that an authority can impose conditions for caravan sites when it is not financially responsible for carrying them out. At any rate, all unlicensed sites within the jurisdiction of the district council have been closed. It would be in the interests of all concerned if the Ministry would give a ruling regarding the excessive zeal of County Planning Authorities who are trying to impose unrealistic conditions on authorities seeking planning permission.

Comparison of Vital Statistics (1962) with those of 1961
Comparability Factor. Births 0.97 Deaths 1.27

	1961	1962
Population	29570	30110
Live Births... ..	496	546
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population (uncorrected)	16.7	18.1
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population (standardised)	16.2	17.5
Illegitimate Live Birth % of total live Births	1.6	3.1
Still Births	7.0	9.0
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births...	13.9	16.2
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population	0.2	0.29
Total Live and Still Births	503	555
Infant Deaths (under 1 year)	13	18
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	26.2	32.9
Neo-natal Deaths (under 4 weeks)	10	15
Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live births	20.1	27.4
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live births)	12.0	25.4
Peri-Natal Mortality rate (Still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 live and Still Births)	25.8	41.4
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	0	0
Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	0	0
Deaths	321	324
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population	10.8	10.7
Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 population	14.0	13.5
Deaths over 65 years of age	193	202
Child Deaths 1-4 years inclusive	4	4.0
Deaths under 1 week	6	14
Tuberculosis Death Rate per 1,000 population	Nil	0.03
Pulmonary Tuberculosis case rate per 1,000 population	4.9	3.6

1962

	Live Births		Still Births		Deaths of Infants Under 1 year		Deaths of Infants Under 4 weeks		Deaths of Infants Under 1 week	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Total	248	298	4	5	9	9	7	8	7	7
Legitimate	239	290	4	4	9	9	7	8	7	7
Illegitimate	9	8	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

Infant Mortality Rate, 1953 - 1962

	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
Diarrhoea and enteritis under 2 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
No. of infant deaths under 1 year ...	20	14	10	10	10	18	9	10	13	18
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births ...	37.3	26.7	19.5	22.5	20.2	39.3	18.6	21.5	26.2	32.9

There were 18 deaths of infants under one year of age & of these 15 were under one month.

The Infant Mortality Rate was 32.9 per 1,000 live births and the neo-natal mortality rate was 27.4 per 1,000 live births.

Deaths Under 1 Year

No.	Age	Sex	Place of Death	Cause of Death	Preventable or not	Remarks
1.	1 day	M.	Hospital	Cerebral Haemorrhage with Prematurity	Not	—
2.	1 hour	M.	Home	Asphyxia Neonatorum	Not	—
3.	3 days	M.	Hospital	Haemorrhagic Disease of Newborn	Not	—
4.	1 day	F.	Hospital	Atelectasis with Prematurity	Not	—
5.	2 hours	F.	Hospital	Intestinal Obstruction	Not	—
6.	2 days	M.	Hospital	Pulmonary Haemorrhage with Prematurity	Not	—
7.	3 days	M.	Hospital	Haemorrhagic Disease of Newborn	Not	—
8.	1 day	F.	Hospital	Prematurity	Not	—
9.	1 day	F.	Hospital	Intracranial Haemorrhage with Haemorrhagic Disease of Newborn	Not	—
10.	5 months	F.	Hospital	B.Coli Septicaemia	Not	—
11.	10 months	M.	Hospital	Congenital Heart Disease	Not	—
12.	2 months	M.	Hospital	Congenital Heart Disease	Not	—
13.	11 hours	M.	Hospital	Prematurity	Not	—
14.	3 days	F.	Hospital	Atelectasis with Prematurity	Not	—
15.	20 mins.	F.	Hospital	Anoxia with Prematurity and Twin Pregnancy	Not	one
16.	15 mins.	F.	Hospital	Anoxia with Prematurity and Twin Pregnancy	Not	family
17.	1 week	F.	Home	Spina Bifida	Not	—
18.	10 hours	M.	Home	Prematurity with Cold Syndrome	Not	—

INFANT MORTALITY

Year	1892	1902	1912	1922	1932	1942	1952	1962
No. of deaths under 1 year	114	93	77	52	41	21	21	18
Infant Mortality Rate	145	134	96	73	76	50	38	32.9
No. of deaths 1-4 years inclusive	N.A.	32	54	32	12	N.A.	N.A.	4
Causes of Death								
Prematurity	...	26	19	11	13	4	2	3
Atelectasis	...	—	1	—	—	—	2	2
Congenital Malformations	...	—	4	6	6	1	—	3
Marasmus and Debility	...	—	16	9	—	—	—	—
Asphyxia	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions	...	—	—	—	3	—	4	—
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	...	6	8	—	1	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	—	—	5	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis (Other)	...	8	6	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis	...	—	2	—	5	—	—	—
Bronchitis	...	12	7	3	—	2	—	—
Pneumonia	...	4	8	10	4	3	4	—
Accident at Parturition	...	2	1	—	3	1	4	3
Infant Atrophy	...	13	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	...	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Influenza	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Haem. disease of Newborn	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
All others	...	17	4	5	5	2	4	4

Table Showing Stillbirths, Deaths under 1 week,
Neonatal and Infant Deaths 1953 - 1962.

Year	No of Still Births	No. of Deaths under 1 week	Perinataldeaths (Still-Births & Deaths under 1 week)	deaths under 1 month	deaths under 1 year	%deaths under 1 week to total Infant Deaths	% deaths under 1 week to total Live Births
1962	9	14	23	15	18	77	2.7
1961	7	6	13	10	13	46	3
1960	6	7	13	8	10	70	1.3
1959	12	5	17	6	9	55	1.0
1958	9	13	22	16	18	72	2.8
1957	17	6	23	7	10	60	1.2
1956	12	9	21	10	10	90	2.0
1955	10	4	14	5	10	40	0.8
1954	17	6	23	9	14	43	1.1
1953	7	11	18	11	20	55	2.0

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1962

Code No.	International Classification							M.	F.	Total
002	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
053.3	B.Coli Septicaemia	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
147	Malignant Neoplasm of Hypopharynx	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
148	Malignant Neoplasm of Pharynx	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
151	Malignant Neoplasm of Stomach	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	7	11
153	Malignant Neoplasm of Large Bowel	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	4
154	Malignant Neoplasm of Rectum	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	8
156	Malignant Neoplasm of Liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	—	3
157	Malignant Neoplasm of Pancreas	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	5
161	Malignant Neoplasm of Larynx	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
162	Malignant Neoplasm of Bronchus and Lung	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	2	13
170	Malignant Neoplasm of Breast	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
171	Malignant Neoplasm of Cervix Uteri	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
176	Malignant Neoplasm of Vulva	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
177	Malignant Neoplasm of Prostate	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
180	Malignant Neoplasm of Kidney	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
181	Malignant Neoplasm of Bladder	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
190.9	Malignant Melanoma (site unspecified)	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
193	Malignant Neoplasm of Brain	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
199	Malignant Neoplasm Unspecified	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
204.3	Acute Leukaemia	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
260	Diabetes Mellitus	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
290	Pernicious Anaemia	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
296	Thrombo-cytopenic Purpura	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
304	Dementia of Old Age	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
330	Subarachnoid Haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
331	Cerebral Haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	21	36
332	Cerebral Embolism or Thrombosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	8	19
334	Hypertensive Encephalopathy	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
350	Paralysis Agitans	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
355	Cerebral Ischaemia	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
415	Rheumatic Myocarditis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
420	Arteriosclerotic Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
420.1	Coronary Artery Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	34	30	64
422	Cardiovascular Degeneration	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	11	18
422.2	Myocardial Degeneration with Senility	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	7	12
431	Acute Myocarditis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
433.1	Auricular Fibrillation	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
434.1	Congestive Heart Failure	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	7	20
434.2	Left Ventricular Failure	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
434.4	Cor Pulmone	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	—	4

Code No.	International Classification							M.	F.	Total
444	Benign Hypertension	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
450.1	Generalised Arteriosclerosis with Gangrene	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
465	Pulmonary Embolism	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	3	7
490	Lobar Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
491	Broncho-pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	4	13
522	Hypostatic Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
540	Gastric Ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
561	Strangulated Hernia	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
570.1	Paralytic Ileus	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
580	Acute Hepatitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
581	Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
584	Calculus in Common Bile Duct	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
592	Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
600	Pyelonephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
715	Toxaemia from Decubitus Ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
751	Spina Bifida	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
754	Congenital Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
760	Intracranial Birth Injury	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
760.5	Intracranial Birth Injury with Prematurity	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
762	Atelectasis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
762.5	Atelectasis with Prematurity	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	4	4
771	Haemorrhagic Disease of Newborn	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
771.5	Haemorrhagic Disease of Newborn with Prematurity	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
776	Prematurity	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
782.5	Syncope	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
792	Uraemia	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
794	Senility	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
E 800	Railway Accident to Employee	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
E 812	Motor Accident to Pedestrian	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
E 890	Accidental Gas Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
E 919	Accidental Shooting	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
E 929	Accidental Drowning	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
E 970	Suicide by Barbiturates	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
E 974	Suicide by Hanging	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
N 854	Subarachnoid Haemorrhage after Injury	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
								178	147	325

CANCER DEATHS, 1961—SITE AND AGE DISTRIBUTION

SITE OF DISEASE	Male							Female						
	0-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	65 or over	Total	0-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	65 or over	Total
Hypopharynx	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pharynx	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Stomach	—	—	—	1	1	2	4	—	—	—	1	2	4	7
Large Bowel	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Rectum	—	—	2	—	—	2	4	—	—	—	2	—	2	4
Liver	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pancreas	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	4
Larynx	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchus and Lung	—	—	—	3	2	6	11	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Breast	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
Cervix Uteri	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Vulva	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Prostate	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kidney	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bladder	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unspecified	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Brain	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Acute Leukaemia	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	1	—	3	5	8	19	36	—	—	1	6	5	15	27

DEATHS FROM CANCER SHOWING SITE OF DISEASE, 1953-1962

Site	1962		1961		1960		1959		1958		1957		1956		1955		1954		1953	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
All sites ...	36	27	34	32	36	28	38	20	39	21	31	21	29	22	41	28	31	25	35	24
Lung and Bronchus ...	12	2	12	3	11	2	11	—	12	4	10	—	7	1	12	2	6	—	6	3
Stomach ...	4	7	8	5	9	3	9	5	7	3	9	4	7	5	8	6	9	8	9	4
Remainder of Digestive System ...	11	12	7	10	10	12	9	9	11	6	6	3	6	4	14	10	12	9	11	8
Female organs	—	4	—	8	—	6	—	4	—	6	—	7	—	7	—	8	—	6	—	9
Others ...	9	2	7	6	6	5	9	2	9	2	6	7	9	5	7	2	4	2	9	—

Leukaemia included from 1962.

TUBERCULOSIS, 1962

During 1962 13 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis (the same as 1961) and 2 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis (3 less than 1961) were notified.

Once again I must stress the marked trend of this disease towards the older age groups and especially the males. The table below shows the comparison between the cases notified under the age of 35 years and those notified over the age of 35 years, each being given as an actual figure and as a percentage of the total notifications. This covers the years 1950-62.

The decrease in the younger age groups may well be due to the fact that an increasing number of school children and contacts who were negative reactors have been vaccinated with B.C.G. This was introduced in 1950-51 for certain groups of school children and its effect may now be making itself felt.

It is all the more important, therefore, that every effort should be made to persuade middle-aged and elderly people who suffer from chronic coughs, to have a chest x-ray. If this is not feasible, then practitioners should obtain sputum for examination and culture.

I feel sure that it is in this age group that the greatest reservoirs of infection exist and it is only by direct action on the part of family doctors that these cases can be revealed and sources of infection cleared. The danger to babies and young children in such circumstances is enormous and everything possible should be done to prevent the spread of the disease in this way.

TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATIONS 1950 - 1962

YEAR	Total cases notified			Total cases notified under 35 years.			% under 35 years of total cases notified			Total cases notified over 35 years.			% over 35 years of total cases notified		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
1950	15	12	27	9	9	18	60	75	67	6	3	9	40	25	33
1951	21	11	32	10	11	21	48	100	66	11	—	11	52	—	34
1952	13	11	24	6	8	14	46	73	58	7	3	10	54	27	42
1953	16	13	29	7	8	15	44	62	52	9	5	14	56	38	48
1954	13	17	30	9	14	23	69	82	77	4	3	7	31	18	23
1955	12	10	22	8	9	17	67	90	77	4	1	5	33	10	23
1956	9	12	21	3	11	14	33	92	67	6	1	7	67	8	33
1957	5	3	8	2	2	4	40	67	50	3	1	4	60	33	50
1958	8	3	11	2	3	5	25	100	46	6	—	6	75	—	54
1959	8	2	10	3	2	5	38	100	50	5	—	5	62	—	50
1960	7	7	14	2	5	7	29	71	50	5	2	7	71	19	50
1961	8	5	13	1	1	2	13	20	15	7	4	11	87	80	85
1962	9	4	13	1	1	2	11	25	15	8	3	11	88	75	85

TUBERCULOSIS 1962

Age Groups	New-Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Resp.		Respiratory		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0- 1 year ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1- 5 years...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5-15 years...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15-25 years...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35 years...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45 years...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-55 years...	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65 years...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
over 65 years	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	9	4	1	1	1	—	—	—
Grand Totals ...	13		2		1		—	

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis (Sites of Infection)

Male	Cervical Glands	1
Female	Scaphoid (wrist bone)	1
		2

TUBERCULOSIS, 1962

Notifications

Year	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
Pulmonary ...	29	30	22	21	8	11	10	14	13	13
Non-Pulmonary	13	11	3	4	4	4	2	—	5	2

Deaths

Year	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
Pulmonary ...	5	6	6	3	2	—	1	4	—	1
Non-Pulmonary	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER ON DECEMBER 31st,

Year	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Total Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
1961	93	54	147	24	22	46	193
1962	77	32	109	9	12	21	130

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES, 1962

During 1962 there were 51 notifications of infectious disease.

Measles

In 1962 only 18 cases of measles were notified.

Scarlet Fever

There were 5 cases of scarlet fever notified during the year.

Whooping Cough

Two cases of whooping cough were notified during 1962—neither child had received prophylactic immunisation.

Food Poisoning

Two isolated cases of food poisoning occurred during the year. The first was due to the patient consuming a steak and kidney pie which was not fresh and which she re-heated. The cause was due probably to an infection of the meat by *Cl. Welchii* which would be intensified after re-heating. No organisms were discovered.

The second was almost certainly due to an infection in a tin of meat and vegetables. Again, no organisms were obtained but the manufacturers were contacted through their local public health department.

There were 4 cases of pneumonia, 2 of puerperal pyrexia, and 3 of dysentery.

Tuberculosis

There were 13 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and 2 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis notified during 1962. These are discussed elsewhere in the report.

MEASLES, WHOOPING COUGH AND SCARLET FEVER NOTIFICATIONS 1953-1962

Year	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
Measles... ..	165	250	381	22	748	7	470	4	711	18
Whooping Cough	215	38	17	69	77	15	10	5	8	2
Scarlet Fever ...	40	19	24	8	19	15	19	7	6	5

**TABLE SHOWING ANALYSIS OF NOTIFIED CASES OF
INFECTIOUS DISEASE UNDER AGE GROUPS, 1962**

DISEASE	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years	6-10 years	11-15 years	16-25 years	26-35 years	36-45 years	46-55 years	56-65 years	over 65	Not known	Total
Measles	2	1	1	1	9	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	5	4	1	1	...	13
NonPulmonary Tuberculosis	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pneumonia	3	...	1	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Whooping Cough	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Scarlet Fever	1	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Dysentery	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Food Poisoning	1	1	...	2
Totals	1	2	2	2	1	10	10	3	3	...	5	4	5	2	1	51

STATISTICS FOR BEDLINGTONSHIRE U.D.C. FOR THE

PAST TEN YEARS 1953 — 1962

Year	Population	Deaths	Death Rate	Live Births	Birth Rate	Infant Deaths	Infant Death Rate	Neo-natal Death Rate
1953	28,840	310	10.7	536	18.5	20	37.3	20.5
1954	29,150	317	10.8	524	17.9	14	26.7	17.1
1955	29,180	315	10.7	511	17.5	10	19.5	9.7
1956	29,130	328	11.2	443	15.2	10	22.5	22.5
1957	29,180	301	10.3	493	16.8	10	20.2	14.1
1958	29,290	297	10.1	458	15.6	18	39.3	34.9
1959	29,480	292	9.9	482	16.3	9	18.6	12.4
1960	29,710	322	10.8	464	15.6	10	21.5	17.2
1961	29,570	321	10.8	496	16.7	13	26.2	20.1
1962	30,110	324	10.7	546	18.1	18	32.9	27.4

DISINFESTATION

The following shows the number of separate properties treated for rat and mouse infestation in addition to the regular attention given to sewers and refuse tips. Charges are made only in the case of business premises.

Council houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Other Council properties	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Allotment gardens	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Business premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Private houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	108

Work for the eradication of bed bugs was carried out at 1 council house and 2 private houses and for cockroaches at 73 houses using liquid spray and smoke insecticides.

In one case only the steam disinfector was used to deal with bedding and clothing.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The major scheme to re-sewer the whole of the district is still proceeding with Phase 2 nearing completion.

WATER SUPPLY

The large total of 139 samples of water has been submitted during the year to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination.

As in previous years the samples were mainly from the open-air swimming baths, the reservoir at West End, Bedlington, or the Power Station supplied by this reservoir.

Water to the swimming pool is piped from the nearby River Blyth at Humford, is of continuous flow, and is sand filtered and chlorinated before entering the pool. The cold weather of the so-called summer accounted for a fall of over 4,000 in the attendance and during the four months May to September only 9,335 persons were admitted. This figure does not include organised school parties.

There are now only 19 houses using standpipes in the back yard or street. This number will disappear when the slum clearance programme is complete.

WATER SAMPLES TAKEN, 1962

No. of Samples						Coliform bacilli per 100 c.c.s.
19	Humford Mill Swimming Baths	...	...	...	...	Nil
5	Humford Mill Swimming Baths	...	...	...	...	1
1	Humford Mill Swimming Baths	...	...	...	...	2
1	Humford Mill Swimming Baths	...	...	...	...	3
2	Humford Mill Swimming Baths	...	...	...	...	8
15	Mains supply within the District	...	...	...	...	Nil
1	Mains supply within the District	...	...	...	...	2
5	Mains supply, Bedlington	...	...	...	...	Nil
19	Mains supply, North Blyth	...	...	...	...	Nil
26	Cambois Power Station, C.E.A. Canteen	...	...	...	...	Nil
3	Cambois Power Station, C.E.A. Canteen	...	...	...	...	1
1	Cambois Power Station, C.E.A. Canteen	...	...	...	...	2
1	Cambois Power Station, C.E.A. Canteen	...	...	...	...	3
22	Cambois Power Station, McAlpines Canteen	...	...	...	...	Nil
5	Cambois Power Station, McAlpines Canteen	...	...	...	...	1
7	Reservoir, West End, Bedlington	...	...	...	...	Nil
3	Reservoir, West End, Bedlington	...	...	...	...	1
1	Reservoir, West End, Bedlington	...	...	...	...	2
1	Reservoir, West End, Bedlington	...	...	...	...	5
1	Reservoir, West End, Bedlington	...	...	...	...	17

SLUM CLEARANCE PROGRAMME

During 1962 only 57 families were rehoused from 50 sub-standard houses, an increase of only one on the previous year. Four families found alternative accommodation themselves.

The rehousing of tenants from the pre-fabs of East Green, employees of the Power Station and key-workers of the Welwyn Factory continues to absorb the majority of available houses and for the past two years there has been a marked slowing down in the field of slum clearance.

There are still some 290 houses on the programme. The total number dealt with is now 1,543 with 386 army huts making a grand total of 1,929.

ACTION TAKEN DURING THE YEAR WITH REGARD TO CLEARANCE AREAS AND INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES

1. Houses Demolished in Clearance Areas	...	...	...	...	Nil
2. Individual Houses Demolished					
Institute House, Bedlington Station	...	...	...	...	1
South Row, West Sleekburn	...	...	...	...	26
Liddle's Terrace, West Sleekburn	...	...	...	...	6
Potter's Buildings, Choppington	...	...	...	...	4
South Parade, Choppington	...	...	...	...	1
Farm Cottages, Cambois	...	...	...	...	2
				—	40
3. Houses and Parts of Buildings Closed					
Fairbairn's Yard, Bedlington	...	...	...	...	1
Hartford Road West, Bedlington	...	...	...	...	1
Whitsun Gardens, Bedlington	...	...	...	...	1
Smith's Buildings, Bedlington	...	...	...	...	4
Dowson's Buildings, Bedlington	...	...	...	...	1
Storey's Buildings, Choppington	...	...	...	...	1
Sheepwash Bank, Guide Post	...	...	...	...	1
East View, Stakeford	...	...	...	...	1
Liddle's Street, Bedlington Station	...	...	...	...	2
				—	13
4. Houses Demolished Previously Reported as Closed	...	...	...	...	Nil
5. Other Houses Discontinued as Dwellings	...	...	...	...	Nil
6. Unfit Houses rendered fit by owners as a result of Action under the Housing or Public Health Acts					
(a) By Informal Action	...	...	...	...	43
(b) By action under Statutory Powers	...	...	...	...	1

NEW HOUSES COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR

(a) By Local Authority	...	...	...	...	52
(b) By any other Housing Authority	...	...	...	...	—
(c) By Private Persons	...	...	...	...	413

HOUSES ON THE SLUM CLEARANCE PROGRAMME FROM WHICH FAMILIES HAVE BEEN RE-HOUSED (up to 31/12/62)

Bedlington

Ewart Hill	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fountain Inn, Glebe Row	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Glebe Row	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	86
Catholic Row	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Dowson's Buildings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Hartford Road West	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sun Inn Yard	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Old Colliery Row	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Bell's Place	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Hollymount Cottages	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Hollymount Hall	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Vulcan Place	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
Stoker's Buildings, Vulcan Place	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Vicarage Terrace	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Old Hall	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Chapel Row, East End	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bank Cottages	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Murray's Yard	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Baptist Yard	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Rosella Place	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Market Place	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Front Street East	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Front Street West	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Joyce's Yard	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Foggan's Yard, East End	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Foggan's Yard, West End	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Wilson's Yard	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Quarry Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Laird's Cottage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
The Quay, East End	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Stoker's Buildings, East End	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Smith's Buildings, East End	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Hartford Bridge Cottage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sunnyside	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Grand View	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Woodbine Cottage, East End	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hirst Head Cottages	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Whitsun Gardens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Bedlington Station

Ravensworth Terrace	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
North Row	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
South Row	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Wilkinson's Buildings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Red Row	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	74
Bridge House	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Bridge End	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Dene House	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Moorland Cottages	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Liddle's Yard	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
River View	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
School House	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dene View	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Puddler's Row	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Cragg's Buildings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Staithe's Quay	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Ivy Cottage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Institute House	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Liddle's Street	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
—								280

Barrington

Chapel Row	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Stone Row	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Garden House	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Parson's Cottage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
School House	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Railway Row	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Office Row	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Storey's Buildings, Choppington	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Station Bank, Choppington	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
—								63

Netherton

Clifton Row	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Yard Row	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	90
Howard Row	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Village	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Farm Cottages	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Moor Cottage, Hartford	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Office Row	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Red House Farm	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Red House Farm Caravan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Blue House Caravan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
—								196

Cambois

Caravan, Wansbeck Ferry ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Railway Bungalows ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
New Row ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Link End ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Farm Cottages ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

— 20

Choppington

Double Row, High Pit ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Single Row, High Pit ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Blackburn's Buildings ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Strong's Buildings ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
First Row ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Second Row ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Third Row ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Fourth Row ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Fifth Row ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Sixth Row ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Seventh Row ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Eighth Row ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
South Front Row ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
North Front Row ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Forster's Buildings ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Peter Gill's Cottages ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Front Street, Scotland Gate ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Colliery Square ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Chapel Row ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
School Row ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
School House ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Richardson's Buildings ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Heslop's Buildings ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rutter's Buildings ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Whinney Hill ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

— 327

Guide Post

Cruddas Terrace	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sheepwash Bank	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Front Street ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Anvil Cottages	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Freehold Terrace	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
High Street ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Ford Terrace ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tulip's Buildings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Byron Street ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Rutherford Street	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Gordon Street	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sawmill Cottages	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Shaw's Building	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Mowbray Terrace	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Sheepwash Cottage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
								104

Stakeford

Trojan Street	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
East View ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Middle Row ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
North View ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
West View ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Ivy Cottages ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
								62

West Sleekburn

Old School House	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
North Row ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
Liddle's Terrace	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Marshe's Cottages	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
South Row ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	78
Institute Row	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
								147

Total Number of Houses ..	...	...	...	1,543
Army Huts, Wansbeck Place	...	...	...	29
Army Huts, Hartford Camp	...	...	...	357
				1,929

INSPECTION AND REPAIR OF HOUSES

In addition to the inspection of dwellings resulting in recommendations being made to the Council to serve Closing or Demolition Orders, 152 inspections were carried out on receipt of complaint of housing conditions. In only three cases was it found necessary to resort to formal action.

Repairs Effectcd

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
External walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Eavesgutters repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Wallplaster repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Ceiling plaster repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Doors renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fireplaces renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Fireplaces and flues repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Water supply pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Drains repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Wash-up sinks renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Water closets repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Additional water closets provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Dustbins renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7

RENT ACT, 1957

No further applications for Certificates of Disrepair have been received during the year and the number applied for since the commencement of the Act remains at 28. Only two of these are still in operation.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Discretionary Grants—Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958.

Applications approved during the year	...	...	...	...	37
Houses involved	...	...	...	...	45
Applications rejected	...	...	...	...	1
Total amount of Grants approved	...	...	...	£10,295	
Average Grant approved per house	...	...	...	£228/15/6	
Total amount of Grants paid during the year	...	...	...	£26,496/9/0	
No. of houses improved during the year	...	...	...	...	127
Internal water closet provided	...	...	...	...	119
Bathroom provided	...	...	...	...	123
Hot water provided	...	...	...	...	123
Scullery/Kitchenette provided	...	...	...	...	37
Foodstore provided	...	...	...	...	17
Wash hand basin provided	...	...	...	...	122
Wash-up sink provided	...	...	...	...	118
New drains provided	...	...	...	...	122
Washhouse provided	...	...	...	...	2
Additional bedroom provided	...	...	...	...	77
Sitting room provided	...	...	...	...	1
Electricity installed	...	...	...	...	121
Damp-proof course inserted	...	...	...	...	1

Standard Grant—House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959.

Applications—Approved during the year	...	...	...	...	5
Brought forward	...	...	...	...	1
					— 6
Grants—Paid during the year	...	...	...	...	1
Total amount paid	...	...	...	£21 4 0	
Outstanding at end of the year	...	...	...	...	5
Works of improvement—1 internal water closet					

Houses in which improvements have been completed since the commencement of the scheme

					Discretionary Grants Paid	Standard Grants Paid
1951	...	...	...	...	2	—
1952	...	...	...	...	—	—
1953	...	...	...	...	12	—
1954	...	...	...	...	17	—
1955	...	...	...	...	12	—
1956	...	...	...	...	24	—
1957	...	...	...	...	33	—
1958	...	...	...	...	127	—
1959	...	...	...	...	85	1
1960	...	...	...	...	130	1
1961	...	...	...	...	118	6
1962	...	...	...	...	127	1

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959

1.—Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority	12	291	2	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	145	256	1	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	157	547	3	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred		number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	3	3	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ...	1	1	1	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	3	3	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences:—					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total	9	9	1	—	—

Outworkers

Nature of Work	No of outworkers in August list	No of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No of prose- cutions for failure to supply lists	No of inst- ances of work in unwholeso- me premises	Notices Served	Prose- cutions
Wearing Apparel Making	10	—	—	—	—	—
All Other Outworkers	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	10	—	—	—	—	—

SHOPS ACT, 1950

The undermentioned are the various kinds of shops within the district for the purposes of the Act.

Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
General Dealers	...	...	...	...	...	...	63
Post Office General Dealers	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
General Post Office	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Fish Fryers	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Wet Fish Retailers	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Bakers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Public Houses and Clubs	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Off-Licence Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Works Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
School Cantcens	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Chemists	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Confectioners and Temperance Bars	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Newsagents and Stationers	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Drapers	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Boot and Shoe Retailers	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Hardware	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
House Furnishing	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ironmonger	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Jewellery and Fancy Goods	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Optician	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ladies' Hairdressers	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Gent's Hairdressers	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Motor Car Accessories	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Electrical Appliances	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Handicrafts	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Paints and Wallpaper	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Wool Shop	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Departmental Store	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dry Cleaners	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Betting Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Pet Shop	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

In addition 34 travelling shops and 55 vans are operating from premises within the district whilst vehicles of various trades and businesses come from outside the district.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Food Preparation Premises and Food Shops

The various types of food businesses in the district are:—

General Dealers	...	...	...	...	...	69
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	27
Confectioners and Temperance Bars	...	...	...	...	...	11
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	12
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	18
Catering Depot	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bakeries	...	...	...	...	...	8
Bakers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	10
Fried Fish	...	...	...	...	...	10
Wet Fish	...	...	...	...	...	3
Ice Cream Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	3
Public Houses and Clubs	...	...	...	...	...	41
Mineral Water Factories	...	...	...	...	...	2
Canteen Kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	18

Regular inspections have been made of these premises during the year and surrendered unsound foods dealt with when necessary.

Hot water supplies for hand washing have been installed in 8 cases, including new shops and public houses.

No legal action has been found necessary

Foods Examined and Found to be Unfit for Human Consumption

Fruit	...	...	...	38 tins	Soup	...	...	...	3 tins
Tomatoes	...	...	...	54 tins	Corned Beef	...	...	...	22 lbs.
Plums	...	...	...	512 lbs.	Cooked Ham	...	...	...	137 lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	9 tins	Cooked Shoulder	...	...	...	35 lbs.
Meats	...	...	...	49 tins	Jellied Veal	...	...	...	30 lbs.
Peas and Beans	...	...	...	13 tins	Chopped Pork	...	...	...	11 lbs.
Vegetables	...	...	...	2 tins	Tongue	...	...	...	9 lbs.
Milk	...	...	...	9 tins	Frozen Foods	...	...	...	235 packs
Cereals	...	...	...	8 tins					

Milk Supply

The licensing of retailers of Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised and Sterilised milk and the taking of samples of these milks in the district is carried out by the County Health Department.

23 samples were taken during the year for bacteriological examination by the Public Health Laboratory and in only one case of Tuberculin Tested milk the result was not satisfactory.

Ice-Cream

Three premises are still registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the manufacture of ice-cream, two by the heat treatment method and one by the cold mix process.

74 premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream and all conform to the standards of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations with hot and cold water for handwashing, etc.

55 samples were taken for bacteriological examination; 52 of these were Grade 1, 2 were Grade 2, and 1 was Grade 4.

MEAT INSPECTION

The number of licensed private slaughterhouses within the district has now been reduced to three, the remainder having closed because of the required standards laid down in the Construction Regulations of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958. Four butchers use these premises.

A 100% inspection of all carcasses and offal has been maintained throughout the year.

Only one bovine animal out of 558 was found to be affected with tuberculosis. Livers continue to be the organ most widely condemned, largely because of cirrhosis and abscesses caused by flukes.

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Steers	Heifers	Cows	Bulls	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs not sows	Sows	Boars	Horses
Number killed and inspected	346	200	12	—	—	2,293	510	—	—	—
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI										
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some diseased part or organ was condemned	43	35	3	—	—	3	144	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci ...	12.43%	17.50%	25.00%	—	—	0.13%	28.23%	—	—	—
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY										
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	1	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	—	0.50%	—	—	—	—	1.76%	—	—	—
CYSTICERCOSIS										
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

MEAT ORGANS, etc., CONDEMNED AS BEING UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

Bovine Animals

Heads and tongues	...	...	...	Tuberculosis, 1; Actinomycosis, 1; Actinobacillosis, 1.
Lungs	...	...	...	Flukes, 50; Stomach Contents, 73; Pleurisy, 6; Congestion, 1; Pneumonia, 1; Contamination, 2; Degenerated Cysts, 1.
Livers	...	...	...	Cirrhosis: 40 whole livers, 42 part livers; Abscesses: 17 whole livers, 9 part livers; Inflammation: 1 part liver; Degenerated Cysts: 1 whole liver.
Skirts	...	...	...	Abscesses, 6.

Sheep

Livers	...	...	...	Cirrhosis: 2 whole livers; Contamination: 1 whole liver, 1 part liver.
Plucks	...	...	...	Congestion, 1.

Pigs

Heads	...	...	...	Tuberculosis, 9.
Plucks	...	...	...	Inflammation, 3.
Lungs	...	...	...	Pleurisy and Pneumonia, 120; Degenerated Cysts, 1.
Livers	...	...	...	Milk Spots: 8 whole livers, 2 part livers; Cirrhosis, 2; Degenerated Cysts, 3.
Hearts	...	...	...	Pericarditis, 12.
Kidneys	...	...	...	Nephritis, 6.

